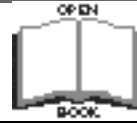


Selection Test

from Sir Gawain and the Green Knight translated by John Gardner



Pupil's Edition page 158

Comprehension (50 points; 10 points each)

On the line provided, write the letter of the *best* answer to each of the following items.

- _____ 1. The lady of the castle attempts to seduce Sir Gawain because she
 - a. wants to play a trick on her husband
 - b. is secretly attracted to Sir Gawain
 - c. is ordered by her husband to test Sir Gawain
 - d. is no longer in love with her husband

- _____ 2. Sir Gawain takes the green sash because he
 - a. hopes that it will help him to remain alive
 - b. wants to have something to remind him of the lady
 - c. knows it is less valuable than the lady's gold ring
 - d. exchanges his glove for it

- _____ 3. Which of the following statements is **not** true?
 - a. Sir Gawain agrees to give whatever he wins to the lord at the end of the day.
 - b. Sir Gawain agrees with the Green Knight to exchange one strike for another.
 - c. Sir Gawain agrees to meet the lady after the second battle with the Green Knight.
 - d. Sir Gawain agrees to go to the Green Chapel and face the Green Knight's blow.

- _____ 4. The Green Knight taunts Sir Gawain because Sir Gawain
 - a. does not return all of the lady's kisses
 - b. is tortured by the lady
 - c. does not let the Green Knight strike another blow
 - d. flinches at the sight of the descending ax

- _____ 5. Why does Sir Gawain feel ashamed after his final confrontation with the Green Knight?
 - a. He is ashamed because by keeping the sash, he violates the code of knighthood.
 - b. He is ashamed because he missed the second meeting.
 - c. He is ashamed because he was afraid to be hit by the Green Knight.
 - d. He is ashamed because the lady rejected him.

Literary Element: Romance (30 points; 15 points each)

On the line provided, write the letter of the *best* answer to each of the following items.

- _____ 6. *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* can be considered a romance because it
 - a. was written by an unknown author toward the end of the Middle Ages
 - b. tells of a brave knight who goes on a dangerous journey for a lofty ideal
 - c. describes a love affair in which a glorious lady secretly tries to seduce a knight
 - d. involves two characters from the Middle Ages who fall in love

- _____ 7. A romance contains all of the following elements **except**
 - a. verse narrative
 - b. an *abba* rhyme scheme
 - c. a quest
 - d. superhuman heroes

NAME _____ CLASS _____ DATE _____ SCORE _____

Written Response (20 points)

8. In the space below, write one paragraph in which you describe at least two of the qualities of Sir Gawain, the lady of the castle, or the Green Knight. Discuss in your paragraph whether you think those qualities are admirable. Support your ideas with at least two examples from the selection.

- It is enjoyable to read about how the trio unwittingly engineers their own destruction.

from *The Wife of Bath's Tale*, from *The Canterbury Tales*

SELECTION TEST, page 23

Comprehension

1. a 2. c 3. b 4. d 5. b

Literary Element

6. c 7. c

Vocabulary

8. d 9. f 10. b 11. h 12. j
13. g 14. i 15. a 16. e 17. c

Written Response

18. Responses will vary. In a model response, students should fulfill the following criteria:
- demonstrate understanding of the prompt
 - state clearly the Wife of Bath's view that every woman wants to master men
 - explain thoroughly why they agree or disagree with the Wife of Bath's opinion. For example:
 - I disagree with the Wife of Bath because I think a good marriage is an equal partnership, not a struggle for mastery.

from *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*

SELECTION TEST, page 25

Comprehension

1. c 2. a 3. c 4. d 5. a

Literary Element

6. b 7. b

Written Response

8. Responses will vary. In a model response, students should fulfill the following criteria:
- demonstrate understanding of the prompt
 - describe at least two qualities of Sir Gawain, the lady of the castle, or the Green Knight. For example:
 - Sir Gawain is honorable because he keeps his pledge to meet the Green Knight, but he is dishonest and weak because he fails to give the Green Knight the lady's sash.

- The lady is loyal because she is willing to fulfill her husband's request; she is beautiful because she has faultless features, fine color, and attractive clothes.
- The Green Knight is scornful because he insults the manliness of King Arthur's knights; he is forgiving because he pardons Sir Gawain for keeping the lady's sash.
- support their ideas with at least two examples from the story (previous examples are sufficient)

The Death of Arthur from *Le Morte D'Arthur*

SELECTION TEST, page 27

Comprehension

1. b 2. a 3. d 4. c 5. c

Reading Skills and Strategies

6. c 7. b

Literary Element

8. d

Written Response

9. Student answers will vary. In a model response, students should demonstrate understanding of the prompt. Any paragraph should include at least four of the following items.
- Arthur's loyalty to his followers—his willingness even after Lancelot's treachery with Guinevere to wait for Lancelot to fight with him
 - Arthur's courage in battle—his steady, deadly fighting; his reluctance to let Mordred escape his vengeance
 - Arthur's respect for truth—his threat to kill Bedivere if he lies one more time and fails to throw Excalibur into the lake
 - Arthur's willingness to do his duty—his eagerness to fight when he thinks Mordred has deceived him and drawn a sword to begin the battle
 - Arthur's sense of honor—his return of Excalibur; his demand that Bedivere be honorable in returning the sword; his keeping his word
 - Arthur's gentleness and courtesy—his obvious love and affection for his knights including Lancelot; he reminds Bedivere of his love for him
 - Arthur's courage in death—his comforting Bedivere by telling him not to mourn, that he goes to heal his wounds and that Bedivere should pray for his soul